



Idaho
Emergency
Communications
Commission

IDAHO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
4040 W. Guard St.
BOISE, ID 83705

OFFICIAL MINUTES

A meeting of the Idaho Emergency Communications Commission (ECC) was held on March 6, 2008 in Building 440 on Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho. Chairman Nancolas called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

Members Present:

- Garret Nancolas, Mayor, City of Caldwell, Commission Chairman
- Teresa Baker, Ada County Prosecutor's Office
- Clint Berry, Qwest, Boise
- Dia Gainor, Chief, Idaho Bureau of Emergency Medical Services
- Troy Hagen, Ada County Paramedics
- Jim Lemm, J & R Electronics, INC., Coeur d'Alene
- R. David Moore, Blackfoot Police Chief, Commission Treasurer

Members Absent:

- Matt Beebe, Canyon County Commissioner
- Ann Cronin, Special Assistant, Idaho State Police, Commission Secretary
- Kevin Quick, Chief, Pocatello Fire Department
- Chris Smith, Idaho Sheriffs Association
- Bill Shawver, Incoming Director Homeland Security
- Rich Wills, State Representative, Commission Vice-Chairman
- Mitchell Toryanski, Lead Deputy Attorney General and Ex-Officio Member

- Kathy Bessey, Idaho State Communications
- Carmen Boeger, Nampa Police Department
- Bruce Bowler, Madison County Sheriff's Office
- Michele Carrera, Idaho State Communications
- Dodie Collier, SIEC
- Bradley Coughenour, Director 911-Kootenai County
- Lorraine Elfering, Canyon County Sheriff's Office
- Nancy Gollaher, Idaho Military Division
- Eddie Goldsmith, ECC E911 Program Coordinator
- Erin Hidalgo, Bingham County Sheriff's Office
- Captain Hoge, Post Falls; - via teleconference
- Matt Howarth, Motorola
- Charlene Holbrook, Post Falls Police Department, - via teleconference
- Steve Steiner, Deputy Director, Interoperable Communications
- Christine Stewart, Idaho State Communications
- Gary Sums, Nez Perce County; - via teleconference

Others Present:

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Nancolas asked for a review of the Agenda.

MOTION: Baker moved and Moore seconded that the Commission approve the Agenda for the March 6, 2008, Idaho Emergency Communications Commission meeting as amended. The motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Nancolas asked for a review of the January and February 2008 Minutes.

MOTION: Moore moved and Berry seconded that the Commission approve the minutes of the January 3 and February 7, 2008, Idaho Emergency Communications Commission meeting. The motion passed.

Financial Report

Commissioner Moore presented:

To date we have spent \$41,689; currently in the bank we have \$257,587; we have collected from the counties thus far \$82,722.80.

Moore asked that the report be accepted.

MOTION: Baker moved and Lemm seconded that the financial statement be approved. The motion passed.

SIEC Update

Dodie Collier briefed the Commission on the SIEC activities.

The SIEC last met on February 21, 2008. To date we have received 38 communication plans from the various counties and tribal entities. We are working closely with three of the tribes in this regard. We anticipate approving roughly 8 of the plans at our next meeting on March 27, 2008.

We just received notification that we should be able to start implementing our PSIC projects in late April to mid May timeframe. The CTA is going well; they have completed the statewide meetings and have begun a web survey of approximately 700. The survey goes into more details than the meetings and the feedback thus far is very good.

The benefits of Eddie Goldsmith and I being closer together are proving beneficial. I received a phone call with a 911 question and I was able to immediately refer them to Eddie. Being located just down the hall from each other is also proving very advantageous for both us and our constituents.

E911 Program Manager Report

Eddie Goldsmith reported the following:

February 5 - I attended a Southeast Idaho GIS conference and gave a 15 minutes presentation on requirements on the mapping side for their MSAG. That same day, Dodie and I addressed the Chief of Police Association regarding our ongoing activities.

February 8 – I attended the open house for Elmore County which went very well.

Comments by Clint Berry, Eddie did a great job and there were a lot of collaborative efforts involved with getting Elmore County up and running. Of particular interest, the collaboration took place between the federal government, the county and a military base which is virtually unheard of.

February 11, 12 and 13 - I visited both Cassia and Minidoka County. I received some inquiries by concerned citizens regarding some of their dispatch procedures. I looked at the problems they said they were having and also met with the sheriff in Cassia County and he is fully aware of the problems

and is working on solutions. Minidoka and Cassia have almost identical dispatch procedures. They are classified as Enhanced but in reality are not. The information they receive is what the phone company gives them. Berry reported that smaller co-ops (phone companies) don't always have the assets to make the necessary upgrades.

February 20 - I met with Valley County regarding MSAG and 911 networking responses. They are moving forward.

February 26 – I met for the final time with Elmore County. Everybody is happy and I agree with Commissioner Berry, that is the first time I have seen such cooperation.

February 27. Sheriff Sanders of Camas County called with a serious funding concern; he was about to lose \$57,000 in grants if he could not obligate it within the next two days. I was able to coordinate with Qwest regarding the hardware he needs and was able to assist with the obligation so the funds are not lost.

February 28 – I went to Adams County to discuss their movement to Enhanced. They understand the need; the issues are funding. They are considering the possibility of sharing equipment with Valley County.

Regarding the *911 Goes to Washington*, I will not recommend this next year; it was not beneficial for what we had to put out.

Sub-Committee Reports

Teresa Baker briefed the Commission on the Legislative sub-committee's actions.

The bill is out of the House and has a six year sunset clause built in. The Senate felt we were not being intellectually honest with the voters regarding the fee as if the bill is approved, it would exceed \$1. They also felt that we needed to include a provision that if the county was not collecting the fee, as is the case with four counties, the county would not be eligible to obtain the grant money until they do collect the fee. This is already in the rules but they felt that the rules are too easily changed. I drafted some new language to address the issues but it was not well received by the Senate leadership. The Emergency Communications Fee of \$1 is ok as there is a vote tied to it but they want us to breakout the fee of .25 and call it an Enhanced Emergency Communications Grant Fee. We can't tie it to a vote as it will most likely require a second page of the ballot which would be more expensive than the money we would collect with the fee. The Senate leadership wants the fee to be authorized by a majority vote of the county commissioners of the county which will be collecting the fee. In addition, only counties who impose the .25 fee will be able to participate in the grant process with further stipulation that they must also be charging the \$1 fee in order to participate in the grant process.

The Senate is concerned about the image of them imposing another fee; they prefer to deflect it to the Counties. I will be meeting with the Association of Counties later today. As the counties will be receiving the 2% back which could be as high at \$100,000, and having seen a draft of the OPE report regarding a call for statewide funding which the counties will no doubt see as a loss of funding to them, we can hopefully gain their approval.

The counties will have to pass a resolution which I will draft. The Association of Counties will send it out to all the counties. If approved, it will be effective July 1st. If the counties choose not to pass it, they will not benefit from the .25 fee. Also of note, the counties could vote to repeal the additional fee in the future if they so choose which would have a significant impact on the available grant funding.

There are also issues between the House and Senate which could derail the legislation. She also left a message with Representative Wills on the situation.

The Council expressed its appreciation to Teresa; she has done an excellent job on this project.

The Commission agreed to allow Nancolas to contact Ken Harwara following this meeting to see if he is agreeable to a phone call with Senator Davis; the control of the issue is out of our hands and the funding mechanism is in jeopardy. Nancolas will follow up with Baker after the phone call.

Gainor asked if the Commission can demonstrate change. It would be a good idea to document how 911 systems have changed over time and thus be able to recreate the condition of the system at any previous point in time. Collier stated that Senator Davis had asked for demonstrate able change on an SIEC matter.

Berry mentioned another legislative issue, that being the legislation relating to telephone PBX systems that Senator Broadsword approached. Next Thursday I, Baker, Goldsmith, Representative Shepherd, Senator Broadsword, Shoshone Counties Deputy Sheriff, and a few other entities will meet and discuss how to address this. Legislation isn't the answer; this will create an open dialogue as to how to proceed.

PSAP Standards

Bruce Bowler reported.

Lynda's job had changed and as such she has requested to be relieved from the Chairmanship. Kristen Steward from State Comm will be the acting chair until May. We don't want to try and speak for the 44 counties without representation so we have asked Goldsmith to e-mail all the PSAPs and get their recommendations on who should be on the PSAP sub-committee. That way we can move forward without mandates.

One item that needs addressing is education and standardization of terminology throughout the PSAPs. We plan to address this through the webpage.

If the Commission is agreeable, we'd like to offer a presentation by Kristen in May outlining the different categories, who is on the committee as well as what the committee is achieving. We'd also like to request that a member of the PSAP subcommittee be appointed to the Commission as a nonvoting member to attend the Commission meetings and provide whatever information may be needed. Goldsmith expressed support for and thanked the members of the subcommittee for all their efforts. They have a strong desire to do what needs to be done and will be a great benefit to the Commission.

Baker moved and Berry seconded that the Commission appoint a member of the PSAP subcommittee to the Commission as an ex-officio member. The motion passed.

New Business

Future Meetings:

April 10, 2008 (Orofino, ID Best Western) Schedule of Events is drafted.

The Commission discussed and concurred to move the meeting time from the afternoon to mid-morning (10:00 am – 12:00) in order to better accommodate possible attendees. Training would commence after lunch at 1:00 and run until 4:00.

May 1, 2008 (Gowen Field, Bldg 440, room 276-reservation confirmed)

June 5, 2008 (State Communication campus, Meridian)

Nancolas suggested that the June meeting be held in Meridian at the state campus and include a tour of state comm facilities.

MOTION: Gainor moved and Moore seconded that the May meeting be held at Gowen Field and the June meeting be held at the state communication facilities. The motion passed.

Goldsmith will do an electronic poll prior to the May meeting to ensure that there will be a quorum.

Deputy Director Interoperable Communications

Steve Steiner reported.

Part of my responsibility is to integrate all levels of communication for public safety communications for the state to include radios, E911 and the state needs across the board. With the Commissions permission, I would like to include Eddie in this process as he is quite knowledgeable regarding the various entities and components involved. His input will be valuable.

The objective is to build a state Strategic Interoperable plan for the state of Idaho to be presented to the Board of the New Public Safety Communication Governance Council which should have its first meeting sometime within the next 30 days. Their focus is Public Safety Communications for the state. We anticipate giving them a strategic plan the first part of June and then refine it throughout the summer. In addition, we plan to compare notes when the SIEC CTA assessment is released. We are here to offer you any assistance we can to help you meet your goals and business needs for E911 systems across the state.

Berry asked about the Governance Council. The Council doesn't have any representation from the private sector and if the Council would like such representation, I offered Col Shawver my assistance from the private sector to be the conduit to bring it about. This could be from the wireless or wireline side, the various associations we belong to or our partners up north. Please use me as the conduit and I'll work to pull everybody together. This presents both a business partnership opportunity and a chance to collaborate to benefit everybody in the state.

Steiner stated that this is a great concept. It may take the committee a while to evolve to that point as many are not IT experts but hopefully by this summer the groups will start to form the committees to help us with that endeavor.

Open Comment Period

Nancolas asked if anybody in the galley or attending via teleconference had any questions or comments.

Nancolas expressed his appreciation to all those from Idaho State Communications in attendance and thanked them for all they do. The amount of support that the citizens of Idaho receive from that office is incredible.

Gainor mentioned a funding opportunity that recently became available from the Center of Disease Control regarding pandemic influenza planning for 911 centers. A guidance document has been generated for use by states to modify the proposed standards so they will work for that state. We had submitted a letter of intent on behalf of this Commission to attempt to secure that funding should we be successful. Regrettably, our state public health partners have chosen not to pursue that grant however we will work on finding alternative sources. 911 Centers from a call management standpoint will have

to reverse engineer how they do business should there be such an outbreak. As things develop and more information becomes available, I will keep the Commission updated.

Gainor also asked about the OPE report. Nancolas stated that the Final Report has not yet been released and when they asked for comments, they asked that the draft report not be publically disseminated. The comments made by myself, Baker and Goldsmith can be made available to the Commission. Gainor also mentioned the 11 March deadline for the Commission to draft a letter in response to the report and offered her assistance as needed to Baker in that regard. The report was almost 100 pages in length and the responses were requested to be submitted within two days; a very short timeframe. Baker stated that she submitted two pages of inaccuracies/corrections to the report and asked that when Goldsmith receives the final report, could he please send it out to the Commission members.

Nancolas thanked everybody for all their comments and declared the meeting adjourned.

Garret Nancolas
Mayor, of Caldwell, Commission Chairman

Gayle E. Alvarez, Administrative Assistant
Military Division